

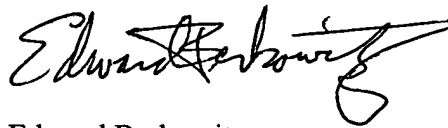
REMARKS

The Examiner issued a Final Rejection by Office Action mailed 12/10/03 maintaining the outstanding rejections and has stated that claims 9 and 13 would be allowable if re-written to incorporate the limitations of the base claims. In order to conclude this prosecution applicant submits the present amendments of claims 1 and 11 where the limitations of claims 9 and 13 have been incorporated into claims 1 and 11 respectively, claims 9 and 13 now standing as canceled.

Claim 20 has been canceled and dependences of claims 9 and 13 have been appropriately amended.

In view of the Examiner's paragraph 11 of the 12/10/03 Office Action and the presently offered amendments, Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested

Respectfully submitted,



Edward Berkowitz
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 27,771

Dated: January 14, 2004

Varian, Inc.
Legal Department
3120 Hansen Way, D-102
Palo Alto, CA 94304
(650) 424-5086